

INFORMATION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

COUNTRY Bulgaria

SUBJECT Internal Conditions

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. The general impression [redacted] was that the local population in the Ivailovgrad, Krumovgrad and Harmanli districts was underfed, sullen, and poorly dressed.
2. [redacted] there were very few true Communist Party members, and [redacted] they were mainly concentrated in the larger towns. The terroristic practices and thieving of the Communists reportedly have built up tremendous tension in the villages. It is believed the peasants would fight the Communists at the appropriate time, and that they could be organized into groups with a definite program. An unspecified number of peasants desire arms. 50X1-HUM
3. During the summer of 1950 the foresters and field guards had their arms taken away from them by the Militia. Since then only a few trusted Party members were re-armed.
4. This year's wheat was collected by the Government and the farmers paid at the rate of 23 leva per kilogram. Corn and other grains were purchased by the government at approximately 16 leva per kilogram. The population was rationed to enough flour to produce 600 grams of bread a day for farmers and 800 grams a day for laborers. This flour costs the peasant 41 leva a kilogram. The wheat is not flailed and is milled with husks and dirt. This, in turn, has soured the bread to a point where many people cannot eat much of it.
5. The cooperatives buy up all that which is produced over the farmer's quota at the rate of 100 leva per kilogram. In turn, the cooperatives are supposed to re-sell the flour, but this year they have not started as yet, and the sale price is not yet known. Corn meal is selling at 80 leva per kilogram in the cooperatives. A small quantity of wheat is hidden by the farmers which can be bought at the same price the cooperatives pay. Many farmers have to sell the ration of wheat allotted to them in order to purchase other daily necessities such as salt, matches, kerosene, et cetera which they can get in very limited quantities.

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6. Calves sell for 110 leva per kilogram on the hoof. Beef sells for 72 leva per kilogram. Buffalo sells for 54 leva per kilogram on the hoof. The population in this area has had no meat distribution on their ration cards this year. In the cities meat costs between 250 and 300 leva per kilogram.
7. The government stipulates that the owner of each cow must furnish the government with 20 kilograms of butter per year; the owner of each goat must furnish 20 liters of milk, and the owner of each sheep must furnish 12 liters of milk.
8. No sugar has been distributed in this area so far this year. Kerosene is allotted in extremely small quantities. No fats or vegetable and sun flower seed oil have been given to the people of this area for a year. Oxford and Duck cloth are not distributed to the population unless they are tobacco producers, in which case they get two meters of one or the other type cloth for every planted decare of land. The tobacco producers also get two liters of fats or oil for every planted decare of tobacco land. Woolen cloth is unknown to the average person and only limited amounts are distributed to the Communists and their friends. Cheese of all kinds is only distributed to Communists in cities. The bulk of the cheese is shipped to Russia.
9. It is reported that in June 1950 laborers were loading cases on a Russian ship in the Burgas harbor and each of the cases was labeled, "Marmalade". One of the cases broke, and it was disclosed that it contained cheese, "Sirene". The laborers who broke the case told others. The authorities discovered those responsible for breaking the case and forbade them from working on the loading of this ship.
10. by 50X1-HUM
 28 August 1950 all persons more or less actively in opposition to the government and all those who were unproductive or harmful (in a non-political way) to the government were to be interned. As a result of this order mass internments were effected all over Bulgaria on that date. People were told that they were to be interned, but actually they were displaced for resettlement. In the Ivailovgrad, Krumovgrad, and Harmanli districts these arrests took place on the morning 28 August as scheduled. For this purpose all trucks in these districts were mobilized, but there were not enough, and consequently twelve additional trucks were dispatched from Maskovo. The persons affected by this directive were given three hours to gather what they could to take with them. Some of them were allowed to sell their cattle. Their ultimate destination is not known.
11. In the above three districts all undesirable were notified that on 10 September 1950 they would all be sent to They were allowed to sell all their property and could take with them only that which they could carry in their hands, providing it was of Bulgarian manufacture. Anything of foreign manufacture had to be left in the country. The 50X1-HUM
 found it difficult to sell their possessions as the people had no money. The few that did have money were afraid to buy for fear that the Militia would arrest them for having hidden wealth. The Bulgarian Government caused 50X1-HUM
 Consulates in Bulgaria to start issuing 90 day visas for all 50X1-HUM
 residing in Bulgaria because they were to be deported
12. There are newly formed Kolkhoz in the following towns:
 - a. Slavianovo
 - b. Bolyarski
 - c. Ivanovo
 - d. Bregovo
 - e. Krumovgrad
 - f. Darrets (sic)
 - g. Krivo Pole

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There is a great deal of mismanagement in these Kolkhoz, and the production is way below par. For this reason the Agricultural Bank refused to credit them, but still gave credit to individual farmers who are not Kolkhoz members. The Kolkhoz in Bolyarski Izvor and Darets are in the worst shape. Last year these Kolkhoz were divided into brigades composed of ten families each, but because of misunderstandings and bickering between individual members, these brigades were left with only five families in each. The members of these Kolkhoz are in worse financial shape than the independent farmers, and they have no prospects of the situation becoming better.

13. It is reported that in Silen 300,000 kilograms of wheat were stored near a mill, and 70,000 kilograms of wheat were stored in the town of Cherkovishte.
14. The Communist Party agitators have been conducting a very active campaign against the United States. They claim that the U.S. wants to divide Bulgaria between Turkey, Greece, and Yugoslavia. This propaganda has not found ready ears, and the vast majority of the villagers look to the U.S. as the only country that is in a position to liberate them.
15. this summer, government employees were forbidden to tender their resignations. This is because the great number of employees who are careerists do not want to serve under the Communists.

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